Railway Projects in Bihar

†4775. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of railway projects under construction in Bihar;

(b) the total amount sent so far on construction work of those projects;

(c) the total funds still required, to complete the ongoing projects; and

(d) the time-schedule fixed by Government to complete such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) 33 Railway projects are currently in progress in Bihar.

(b) Anticipated expenditure on these projects to the end of 2001-02 is approximately Rs. 1239 Crores.

(c) Funds required to complete these projects is approximately Rs. 3879 Crores.

(d) The projects are being implemented as per the availability of resources and their completion will depend on the availability of funds from year to year.

Rail reservation by private agencies

†4776. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have authorised certain private agencies for making rail reservations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what steps Government have taken to prevent unauthorised private agencies from making rail reservation; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the agreements made to inform passengers about the agencies authorised by the Railways

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Rail Travellers' Service Agents (RTSAs) are appointed under Rail Travellers' Service Agents Rules, 1985 to purchase tickets from Railway counters on behalf of intending passengers by standing in the queue by realising prescribed service charges. At present about 715 RTSAs have been authorised by zonal railways. Besides, Rail Tourist Agents (RTAs) are also appointed in some of the cities.

(c) Checks are conducted by the Commercial and Vigilance Department from time to time in association with police in and around reservation offices.

(d) Information about Rail Travellers' Service Agents/Rail Tourist Agents authorised by zonal railways has been published in zonal railway time-table by most of the railways.

Railway project in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana

4777. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of on-going railway project in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon, so far, project-wise;

(c) by when, these projects are likely to be completed;

(d) the present status of on-going surveys and by when these are likely to be completed, Project-wise;

(e) the details of surveys which are completed but construction work could not be taken up alongwith the reasons therefor;

(f) whether some projects have been rejected after survey; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) The details of all on-going Railway